Target for setting up CNG filling stations

†417. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that there is an acute shortage of CNG filling stations in Delhi entailing long queues for consumers;

(b) if so, whether Government has had a survey on it;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the targeted number of CNG filling stations to be set up by Government for the years 2008 and 2009 in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) At present, Indraprastha Gas Limited (IGL) has 163 CNG filling stations in Delhi catering to around 250000 vehicles. However, the Government is aware of the demand for further expansion of the CNG infrastructure.

(b) and (c) IGL has been conducting various surveys at its stations, including by an external agency, to understand the reasons behind queue formation so as to address the problem. The findings of the survey are as follows:-

* Number of CNG run private cars in Delhi has increased phenomenally in the past few months because of the differential in prices of petrol/diesel and CNG

* Large number of CNG run private vehicles in the capital come from adjoining NCR towns and are being filled in Delhi due to absence of CNG fuelling facilities in NCR towns.

(d) The expansion of CNG infrastructure in different cities in the country including Delhi is being taken up in a phased manner. Providing of CNG facilities depends upon availability of gas, setting up of necessary infrastructure and economic viability. To increase the number of CNG stations in Delhi, IGL has taken up the matter with various land owning agencies for allotment of at least 50 sites. Eight sites have been allotted.

Provision of new LPG connections

418. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI:
SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the absence of any new policy decisions by Government to stop new LPG connections, the public sector oil marketing companies have stopped issuing new LPG connections since June, 2008;

(b) if so, whether the public sector oil marketing companies cite the reason for stopping new LPG connections as shortage of funds to procure new cylinders; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.